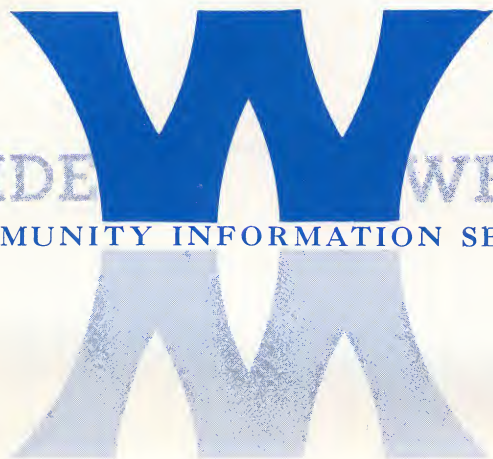


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INSIDE WEST MORRIS

A COMMUNITY INFORMATION SERVICE OF WEST MORRIS REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

IN THIS ISSUE:

Report on
the Mendham School

Dear Residents of the WMRHS District:

Since the last newsletter, much has happened in the West Morris Regional High School District. Bids were obtained and contracts awarded for the Mendham High School. A bond issue of \$3,450,000 has been sold at $4\frac{1}{2}\%$, a favorable rate of interest in today's money market. Plans are being made to build an additional high school in the western part of the district to be opened in 1973. Our student population forecasts indicate this to be an absolute necessity.

Regrettably the contractor on the Mendham High School is behind schedule. It had been hoped originally that at least classroom spaces would be available in September 1969. It now appears that the first part of 1970 would represent an optimistic opening date. Should this not be possible, rather than move in late in the school year, Mendham High School would open in September 1970.

Needless to say, both board and administration are frustrated by the above delays. The present high school is and will be seriously overcrowded. We are exploring various ways in which to alleviate this situation. Present board thinking does not include double sessions. In the period ahead we will appreciate your continued support and cooperation so that each child may receive an education that will enhance his chances of becoming a strong and useful citizen.

Very truly yours,

Robert T. Weller

Robert T. Weller, Pres.
WMRHS Board of Educ.

Report on the Mendham School

It was little more than a year ago that the low bid on Mendham High School came in nearly three-quarters of a million over the referendum budget allocation. This was quite a shock to a new superintendent less than three months on the job! Since that time Mendham High School has been completely redesigned, approved by the State Department of Education, advertised for bids, contracted for construction, and is underway for construction on Route 24, Mendham Main Street. The successful bids were well within the budget allocation and included more "plus" features than the original unsuccessful design.

This issue of the Newsletter is devoted entirely to the new high school as a full report to you, the patrons and taxpayers of the Region.

The building cost reduction is primarily due to straightforward design, lending itself to simple and functional steel construction; to the use of the ceiling space for electrical, mechanical, and water conduction; to the elimination of "wandering" masonry wall; to the interior positions of the gym and the auditorium; and due also to structural techniques and a number of technological improvements.

Carpeting is provided throughout except, of course, in areas such as shops and chemistry labs. It has been clearly demonstrated that carpeting can represent a long range saving. Modern fabrics have a long life -- some claims approach life-time estimates, and cleaning bills are less expensive than surfaces requiring regular scrubbing and waxing.

Tinted glass and venetian blinds offer the best in vision control for studying, and the conventional brick will dignify the straightforward and simple design of the entire structure. The gymnasium can be used in its entirety or will divide into two, three, or four stations through the use of electrically operated folding partitions. The bleachers will seat 900 spectators.

Department chairman offices have been clustered about a central teacher workroom-lounge, while a circular traffic pattern for student passing exists in the four major areas. The cafeteria can be entered from two opposite sides, and the public ingress to both auditorium and gymnasium can be controlled from a centrally located spacious student commons, or lobby.

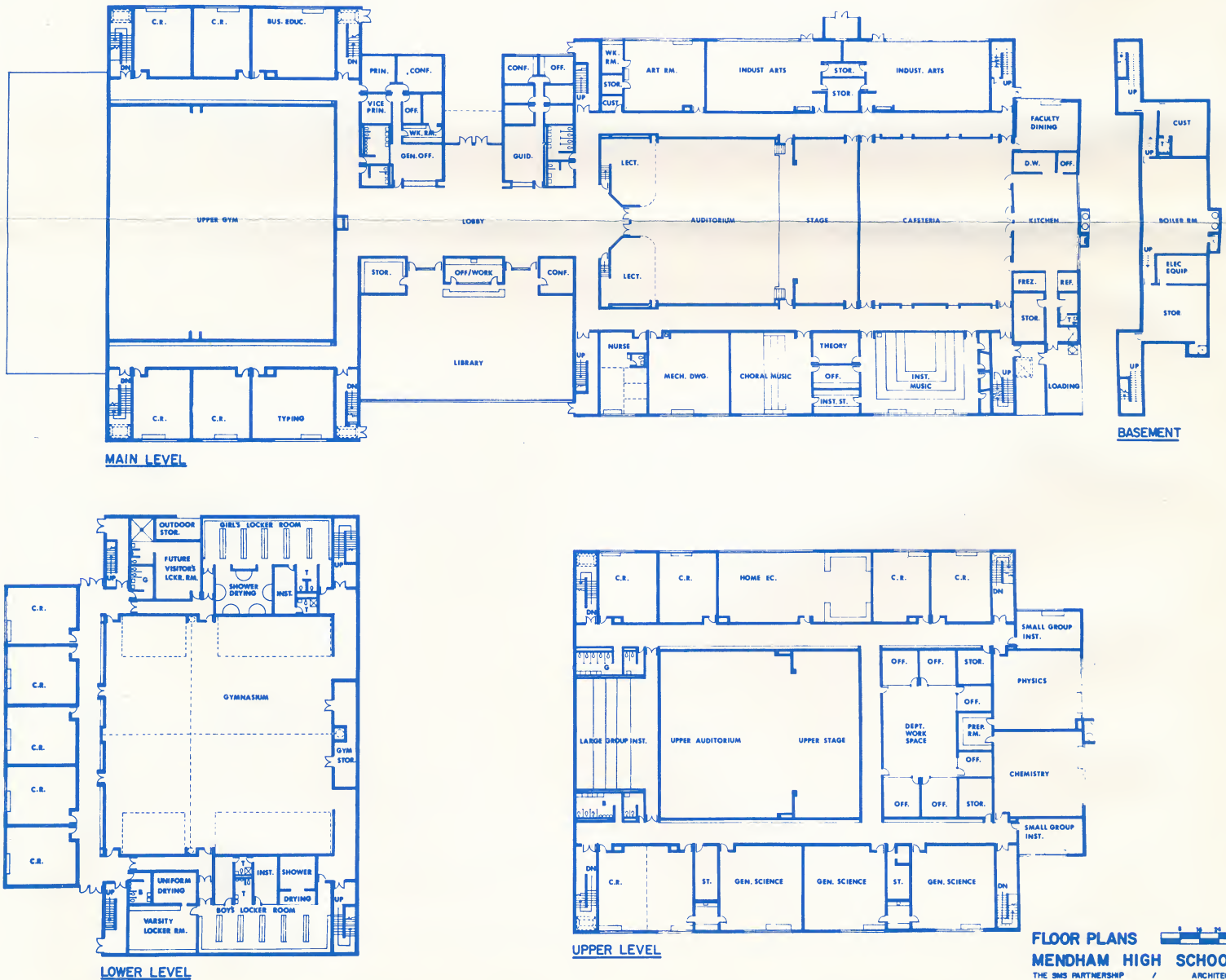
A large lecture hall occupies the same space often allocated to auditorium balconies, and movie and spotlight projection will take place from this room. Water will be piped to the far-side of the football field at the rear of the site, which includes full development of the football, baseball, and soccer fields. \$224,000 is allocated for equipment except for built-in items such as home economics cabinets and science equipment which are part of the base bid. It is hoped that enough equipment money and enough of the \$100,000 contingency will remain to provide an outdoor track and bleachers.

The problem facing us now is how to provide for the large enrollment of high school students in the district prior to completion of the building. Since the building will be only partially completed at sometime during the fall, it has been

the best thinking of this administration to place there no more than half its capacity (500 students) during the first year, and this could require some temporary rental space.

A very recent report from our architect includes the possibility that it may even be necessary to keep all students at West Morris High School in the fall of 1969. This would constitute emergency conditions, and the Board of Education is presently considering various alternatives for meeting any eventuality.

Whatever we do will be dependent upon the building construction progress; and no later than the second year a boundary will be established, which will include part of Chester and eventually provide for some 1,000 students as originally planned.

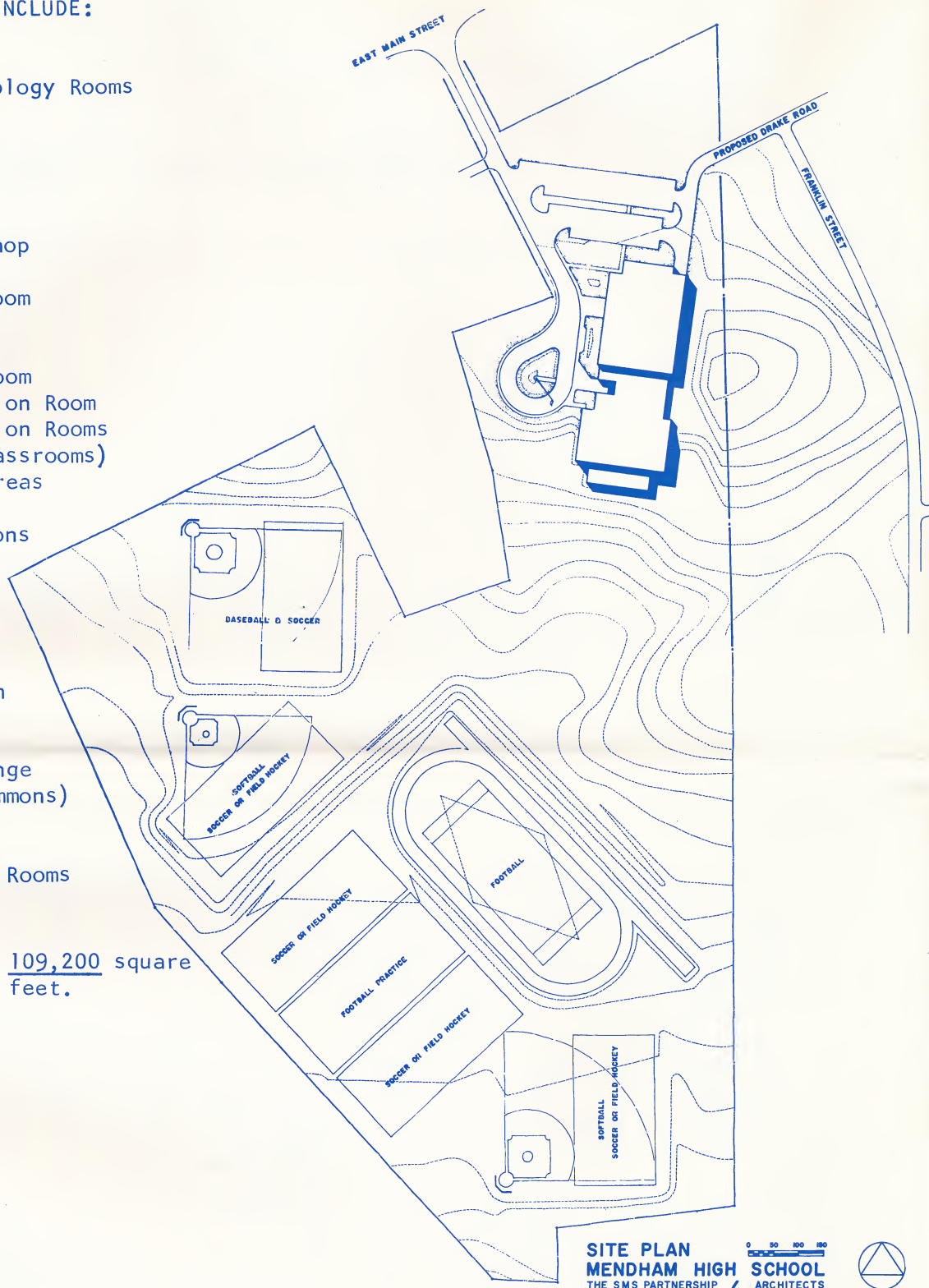


MENDHAM HIGH SCHOOL WILL INCLUDE:

- 14 Regular Classrooms
- 3 General Science - Biology Rooms
- 1 Chemistry Room
- 1 Physics Room
- 1 Home Economics Room
- 1 Metal Shop
- 1 Wood Shop
- 1 Mechanical Drawing Shop
- 1 Art Room
- 1 Instrumental Music Room
- 1 Choral Music Room
- 1 Typing Room
- 1 Business Education Room
- 1 Large Group Instruction Room
- 2 Small Group Instruction Rooms
- 2 Lecture Rooms (or Classrooms)
- 4 Separate Gymnasium Areas
- 1 Auditorium
- 38 Total Teaching Stations

- 1 Library
- 1 Administrative Suite
- 1 Guidance Suite
- 1 Health Clinic
- 1 Cafeteria and Kitchen
- Department Offices
- 1 Faculty Dining Room
- 1 Faculty Workroom-Lounge
- 1 Student Lobby (or Commons)
- Storerooms
- Locker Rooms
- Boiler and Custodial Rooms

The building will occupy 109,200 square feet and 1,518,832 cubic feet.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

November 28, 29 Thanksgiving Recess

December 3 Football Awards Dinner

December 7 College Boards

December 11 Basketball Parents' Night

December 13 Basketball at Hunterdon

December 14 Christmas Ball
Blood Bank

December 17 Basketball at Morris Hills

December 20 Basketball - Home

December 23 - January 1 . Christmas Vacation